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ABSTRACT

Part of a curriculum series for academically gifted elementary students in the area of reading, the posttest contains 44 reading comprehension questions evaluating various critical reading skills. (DB)

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Beloit, Wisconsin

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CAPABLE READER PROGRAM

Post-Test

EC142199

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February 1981

Read the story below and choose the correct words to fill the blanks.

Waiting to be bought? Oh yes! But lying in their boxes? No, they were not--not at this time of night when they could move around and talk and play and do anything they wanted.

At this time of night, the dolls in Bower's Toy Store were very busy playing "Home."

One doll went galloping down the aisle of the store. She was giving another doll a piggyback ride. "Giddap, giddap!" said the rider, giggling as she hung on.

One doll was pushing two other dolls along in a stroller. "I'll give you a special treat, my dears," she said. "I'll take you to the zoo." She pushed them to the stuffed-animal corner. There she let them get out of the stroller and look at the lions, monkeys and bears.

1. From the story, you can tell that the dolls were _____ each other.

   1. nice to
   2. not talking to
   3. mean to
   4. jealous of

It's easy to grow plants from seeds.

> First, put some clean earth in an empty egg carton. Then place the seeds carefully on top. Cover the seeds lightly with a little earth. Put the box in a sunny place and water the seeds. In a few days, tiny green shoots will come up. When the shoots are stronger, plant them in your garden.

2. What should you do after covering the seeds with earth?

   1. Place them carefully on top of the earth.
   2. Put more clean earth in the carton.
   3. Put the carton in a sunny place and water the seeds.
   4. Wait until they grow into shoots

3. According to the directions, when should you plant the shoots in your garden?

   1. right away
   2. when the shoots are stronger
   3. after the seeds are watered
   4. after the seeds have been covered with earth

Read the paragraph.

> In late spring, wild flowers bloom all over the woods and hillsides. Many colors may be seen. Some of the flowers which may be seen are lilies, violets, jack-in-the-pulpit, bloodroot, and pink lady's slipper. In shady areas many ferns and plants may be seen.

4. Choose the main idea of the paragraph.

   1. Violets bloom in the spring.
   2. Many beautiful wild plants and flowers may be seen in the spring.
   3. Ferns are found in the woods.
   4. Lady's slippers are pink.

4

Read the advertisement.

> Buy a great new toy fire truck from Zipp Toy Company! You'll love it!!

5. How does the ad make you want to get the toy truck?

   1. It uses words like "new" and "great" to make you like the truck.
   2. It uses words to tell you why the truck is better than other toys.
   3. It tells you the fire truck is red.
   4. It tells you that the truck doesn't cost much.

Read the Story.

> Bob woke up with an uneasy feeling. Today was his first day at a new school. He didn't know anyone at this school.

6. Choose the sentence that describes the story.

   1. Bob was pleased he was going to a new school.
   2. Bob was meeting his friends at school.
   3. Bob's mother was taking him to school.
   4. Bob was afraid he wouldn't find a new friend.

Read the story.

> Colonel Hiram Cluck, owner of the state's largest chicken farm, near Cloverdale, says children are eating too much beef and fish. "These foods are not safe," he claims. "Young people should be guarded against these dangers. They should eat more chicken!"

7. Colonel Cluck probably

   1. wants people to buy more of his chickens.
   2. is a health expert.
   3. is worried about children.
   4. does not like beef.

8. Read the four sentences below. Three of them will make a story. One does not belong. Choose the one that does not belong.

1. Jeff and Scott like to play baseball.
2. The boys have their own balls and bats.
3. The two boys also like to go to hockey games.
4. When spring comes, they will start playing baseball.

9. Read the sentence and choose the correct meaning for the underlined word.

> The boy took the catch off the door.

1. to capture something
2. something which holds an object in place
3. to take hold of something
4. to get a cold

10. Read the directions.

> Test Directions: Answer all questions in complete sentences, giving reasons for each of your answers. All words must be spelled correctly for full credit.

These directions state that

1. spelling will not count.
2. length of answers is important.
3. opinions are necessary.
4. complete sentences must be used.

11. Which statement is an opinion?

1. The Oregonian is a newspaper.
2. Newspapers have articles on the latest news events.
3. The newspaper should be read everyday.
4. The newspaper has classified ads.

Read the story and answer the following question.

In 1961, President Kennedy established a goal for the United States of landing on the moon before 1970. The goal was achieved July 24, 1969, at 11:12 a.m. PDT, with the three astronauts stepping on the deck of the recovery ship, Hornet. The mission was a complete success from liftoff to splashdown. The triumph of the Apollo 11 required that each of the over 3 million parts of the rocket and spacecraft would function perfectly. All of the various components worked flawlessly and Apollo 11's success will lead to ten additional Apollo missions.

The most exciting portion of the mission was the actual landing on the moon's surface and an over two-hour walk on the moon. The LEM, or Lunar Excursion Module, descended to the surface of the moon Sunday, July 20th. Over 400 million people throughout the world watched via communication satellite as Neil Armstrong emerged from the LEM, or Eagle as it was called. "Buzz" Aldrin stepped down the ladder about 20 minutes later. Live television pictures of the walk traveled 240,000 miles back to the earth. The space pioneers tried out the 1/6 G gravity and proved again that man is very adaptable. They conducted scientific experiments and collected samples of moon-rock which will be carefully studied by geologists.

The arrival aboard the Hornet did not complete the mission for the three heroes. The President of the United States greeted them upon their arrival but even he had to do it through a window in a trailer-like quarantine unit. The astronauts had to remain in quarantine until August 12th as a precaution against any moon germs that they might have brought back.

12. When someone is quarantined he _____.

1. is isolated
2. rubs himself with quarants
3. is studied by geologists
4. talks to the president

a	hat	i	it	oi	oil	ch	child	ə	a in about
ā	ago	ī	ice	ou	out	ng	long		e in taken
ä	far	o	not	u	cup	sh	she		i in pencil
e	let	ō	open	ů	put	th	thin		o in lemon
ē	equal	ô	order	ū	rue	TH	then		u in circus
ėr	term					zh	measure		

rec on cil i a tion (rek'ən sil'ē ā'shən). 1 bringing together again in friendship. 2 settlement or adjustment of disagreements or differences: *a reconciliation of opposite points of view. noun.*

rec on noi ter (rek'ə noi'tər *or* rē'kə noi'tər), 1 approach and examine or observe in order to learn something: *Our scouts will reconnoiter the enemy's position before we attack.* 2 approach a place and make a first survey of it: *It seemed wise to reconnoiter before entering the town. verb*

re con struct (rē'kən strukt'). construct again: rebuild; make over. *verb.*

re cord (ri kôrd' *for* 1,2, *and* 6; rek'ərd *for* 3-5-7-9). 1 set down in writing so as to keep for future use: *Listen to the speaker and record what he says.* 2 put in some permanent form; keep for remembrance: *We record history in books.* 3 the thing written or kept. 4 an official written account: *The secretary kept a record of what was done at the meeting.* 5 disk used on a phonograph. A record plays the sounds copied on its very small grooves. 6 put (music, words, or sounds) on such a disk or on specially treated wire or tape. 7 the known facts about what a person, animal, or ship has done: *She has a fine record at school.* 8 the best yet done; best amount, rate, or speed yet reached: *Who holds the record for the high jump?* 9 making or affording a record: *a record wheat crop.* 1,2,6 *verb,* 3-5,7,8 *noun,* 9 *adjective.*

break a record, make a better record.

re cord er (ri kôr'dər), 1 person whose business is to make and keep records. 2 machine or part of a machine that records. A cashier's recorder adds up and prints the amount of sales made. 3 tape recorder. 4 a wooden musical instrument somewhat like a flute. See picture. *noun.*

re cord ing (ri kôr'ding). record used on a phonograph, or a plastic tape used on a tape recorder. *noun.*

re cord player, instrument that reproduces sounds from records; phonograph.

re count[1] (ri kount'). tell in detail; give an account of: *He recounted all the happenings of the day. verb.*

re count[2] **or re-count** (rē kount' *for* 1; rē'kount' *for* 2). 1 count again: *She recounted the money to check the sum.* 2 a second count: *make a recount of the votes.* 1 *verb,* 2 *noun.*

re course (rē'kôrs). 1 turning for help or protection; appealing: *Our recourse in illness is to a doctor.* 2 person or thing appealed to or turned to for help or protection: *His only recourse in trouble was his family. noun.*

re cov er (ri kuv'ər). 1 get back (something lost, taken away, or stolen): *recover one's temper or health, recover a lost purse.* 2 make up for (something lost or damaged): *recover lost time.* 3 get well; get back to a normal condition: *She is recovering from a cold. verb.*

re-cov er (rē kuv'ər). put a new cover on: *We had our couch re-covered. verb.*

re cov er y (ri kuv'ər ē). 1 coming back to health or normal condition: *We heard of your recovery from fever.* 2 getting back something that was lost, taken away, stolen, or sent out: *the recovery of a space capsule.* 3 getting back to a proper position or condition: *He started to fall, but made a quick recovery. noun, plural* re cov er ies.

rec re a tion (rek'rē ā'shən). play; amusement. Walking, gardening, and reading are quiet forms of recreation. See picture. *noun.*

re cross (rē krôs'). cross again. *verb.*

re cruit (ri krüt'). 1 a newly enlisted soldier or sailor. 2 get (people) to join an army, navy, or air-force. 3 new member of any group or class: *The Nature Club needs recruits.* 4 get (new members); get (people) to join: *recruit new members.* 1,3 *noun,* 2,4 *verb.*

rec tan gle (rek'tang'gəl). a four-sided figure with four right angles. See picture. *noun.*

rec tan gu lar (rek tang'gyə lər). Shaped like a rectangle. *adjective.*

rec ti fy (rek'tə fī). make right; put right; adjust; remedy: *The storekeeper admitted her mistake and was willing to rectify it. verb.* rec ti fied, rec ti fy ing.

8

Use the dictionary page to find the meaning and pronounciation of the underlined word in each sentence.

13. The Jacksons decided to reconnoiter the area before choosing the site for their picnic.

    1. rebuild
    2. recross
    3. recommend
    4. examine

14. My grandparents like to recount the adventures of their youth.

    1. tell about
    2. worry about
    3. dream about
    4. sing about

15. The ambassador hopes to begin a reconciliation between the two countries.

    1. payment or reward
    2. disagreement
    3. settlement
    4. amusement

16. Which word below is a synonym, a word having nearly the same meaning, for the word underlined in the sentence.

Don't prevaricate. You must tell the truth.

    1. lie
    2. hurry
    3. be honest
    4. stutter

Read the paragraph.

> Fall is a good time to buy meats. Beef is in good supply, and, therefore, less expensive September 1 through January 1. Pork is plentiful October 1 through January 1. Lamb, too, is lower in price during the fall. Veal, however, is almost constant in supply and price. Consider the amount of waste in buying meat. If a piece has much bone, fat, connective tissue or gristle, it may be more costly per serving than a better cut.

17. When is the best time to buy veal?

    1. September 1 through January 1
    2. October 1 through January 1
    3. in the fall
    4. no time period is stated

Read the story below and complete the sentence which follows it.

> Wide-eyed with curiosity, the kindergarten child began to turn the crank on the glass container. Inside the white liquid burst into a "white water" through the action of the wooden paddles. Fascinated, he cranked faster and faster. With a squeal, his partner announced that "yellow blobs" were appearing on the surface. Without comprehending the reason, the "cranker" began slowing down perceptibly.
>
> "Oh, I see you have butter already," his teacher announced to the class.

18. In this story, the result of cranking "white water" in the glass container was

    1. wooden paddles
    2. a broken crank
    3. bubbles
    4. butter

10

Read the story below and answer the question that follows.

> As the knight slept peacefully, his squire was busy laying out his armor, preparing his weapons, and making ready for the big event. Finally, everything was in order.

19. Choose the sentence that best fits the story.

    1. The next day the knight rescued the fair maiden from the castle.
    2. The squire stole the knight's belongings and left.
    3. The next day the knight entered the king's joust with other knights of the realm.
    4. The knight returned to his own castle.

Read the paragraph.

> The industrial strength and the security of the United States require an adequate, dependable, and continuing supply of raw materials, of which minerals contribute an indispensable part. With an expanding population, a rising standard of living, and the instability inherent in a constantly changing international situation, the mineral supply outlook is a major national concern.

20. As used in the above paragraph, which word means the same as <u>security</u>?

    1. happiness
    2. wisdom
    3. prosperity
    4. safety

Read the advertisement.

> You love your family--you want the best for them. You always think of them first. The phone company is thinking of them, too. That's why we are always trying to improve our service when you call your loved ones. We're the phone company. We care.

21. In what way does this advertisement take advantage of the telephone user's needs?

    1. The facts it gives are not true.
    2. It appeals to your personal feelings.
    3. The facts are taken out of context.
    4. The company wouldn't try to sell you a service you don't really need.

Read the paragraph below and answer the question that follows.

> The class was reading the geography assignment when a policeman came in the room. He talked quietly with the teacher; and he went back and took John, the new boy in the class, out of the room. No one liked John because he had been a bully since he arrived and had started fights. That afternoon the story around the school was that John had been seen playing on some construction equipment near the school and had left the brake off. Later the tractor had rolled down the hill and struck a car. John said that he had not played on the tractor the day it struck the car.

22. Which of the following will most likely happen?

1. The class will believe that the policeman was picking on John because he had been fighting.
2. The class will think that John really had been playing on the tractor.
3. The class will take up a collection to help John pay for the damage to the car, even though he said that he was not responsible.
4. John will go to jail because he was really lying to the policeman.

Read the article.

> The Alaskan fur seal, a mammal who was in danger of becoming extinct and whose fur pelt sells for more than mink, has reappeared for the first time in 130 years off the California coast. This is the first time biologists have found northern seals breeding south of Alaska, although colonies may have occurred here prior to about 1830. The fur seal's present home is three thousand miles away in the Bering Sea.

23. Which one of the following sentences summarizes the article you just read?

1. Two professors on San Miguel Island are studying the Alaskan fur seal.
2. The Alaskan fur seal, which was nearly extinct, has reappeared off the California coast.
3. Biologists are forcing the breeding of the fur seal near California to see if it can live in warmer water.
4. The Alaskan fur seal lives in the Bering Sea but migrates south to California every year.

Read the Story

> John Smith, who later became president of Jamestown's Council of Seven, realized that the wealth of the land around Jamestown was in the soil, not in gold. "There is nothing to be gained here except by hard work," he wrote to the directors of the company.

24. What will John Smith probably do?

1. John Smith will organize a gold seeking expedition.
2. John Smith will urge that newcomers to Jamestown be blacksmiths.
3. John Smith will suggest that more time be spent in planting and caring for crops.
4. John Smith will encourage newcomers to bring gold digging tools.

Read the paragraph.

> The Great Lakes form a large fresh water seaway that lets ships sail over 1,000 miles into North America. Metal, ore, lumber and grain are put on ships and carried across the Lakes to markets on the East Coast. The Lakes are also used for fishing. The coolness of the Lakes in the summer makes them a popular place for vacations.

25. Which idea from the paragraph tells why the Great Lakes are popular for vacations?

1. Ships carry goods across the Lakes.
2. The Lakes go over 1,000 miles inland.
3. The Lakes are fresh water.
4. The Lakes are cool in summer.

Read the paragraph.

> A. Halloween is a festival which is celebrated on October 31st.
> B. Children often have costume parties at school.
> C. Because it takes place the day before All Saints Day, Halloween means hallowed or holy evening.
> D. Some children play trick-or-treat in their neighborhood.

26. Choose the main idea below.

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. D

Read the story.

> The mighty Mississippi River, flowing from North to South, divides the United States in half. Many large cities are built along the Mississippi. People and goods travel up and down the river. Sometimes in spring when the weather becomes warmer, the Mississippi floods. Great walls have to be built to keep the river from overflowing. The Mississippi is one of the world's great rivers, although it is also one of the most dangerous.

27. Which sentence in the story tells you that the Mississippi is important in trade?

    1. The Mississippi divides the United States in half.
    2. Great walls have been built along the banks of the Mississippi.
    3. Goods travel up and down the river.
    4. The Mississippi is one of the world's great rivers.

28. What fact tells you that the Mississippi's flooding may be partly the result of melting snow?

    1. The Mississippi flows from North to South.
    2. The Mississippi floods in the spring when the weather becomes warmer.
    3. The Mississippi is one of the world's most dangerous rivers.
    4. Great walls have been built along the Mississippi's banks.

Read the ad.

> If you don't have a new Williamson 10-speed bike, you're missing a lot. Everyone's getting these great new bikes, so don't miss out on the action and fun. Each new bike comes with an official certificate showing that you own and enjoy a Williamson bike. So get yours today!

29. This ad urges you to buy the bike by telling you

    1. about its safety features.
    2. that everyone has one.
    3. about the good-looking colors and style.
    4. that the certificate guarantees your satisfaction.

30. Which statement is a fact?

1. Steam engines are not used because they make too much noise.
2. Traveling by railroad is the most fun because people can relax as they travel.
3. Rudolph Diesel invented the diesel engine in 1897.
4. Railroading is an exciting career.

31. A fact is a statement which can be proven. Which of these statements is a fact?

1. Girls are better at making pancakes than boys.
2. You always need two eggs to make pancakes.
3. Pancakes are a breakfast food.
4. Pancake batter is cooked before it is eaten.

32. Select the sentence that expresses fact rather than opinion.

1. Everyone is capable of singing.
2. My dog is the best hunter in the city.
3. Angel Falls is the highest falls in the world.
4. Hamburgers are better than hot dogs.

33. A poster is prepared by Bill Secrest's campaign committee. The day the poster is put up, you hear many students talking about Bill Secrest. Which of the comments below would you classify as a fact rather than opinion?

1. Bill Secrest is the best candidate.
2. Bill Secrest served on the student council for two years.
3. Bill Secrest would be a good student council president.
4. Bill Secrest's campaign was not well organized.

Read the story.

> New York City was once a beautiful place of fine shops, theaters and office buildings. New York has become a city of dirty, crowded slums filled with sick and poor people. The sad story of New York is a warning to other U.S. cities. People in other cities should act before they end up like the New Yorkers.

34. The writer of the story

1. is a person who has lived in New York.
2. does not like large cities.
3. cares about other cities.
4. wants to rid cities of sick people.

Read the article.

> There is such a thing as "bait" advertising. The advertiser states a much lower price for an article. The buyer finds the lower-priced article is sold out or is the wrong size when he, or she, comes to buy it. The advertiser has <u>baited</u> the buyer to come to the store and buy a more expensive article or some other article.

35. Which common dictionary meaning for the word "bait" is nearly the same as the underlined word <u>baited</u> in the article above?

1. to tease; make several attempts to attack; to nag
2. a lure or temptation
3. a poisoned food used to trap or kill pests
4. to attack verbally

Look at the schedule below and answer the questions which follow it.

You have planned to do the following things this week:

Monday	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	School
Monday	5:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.	Cheerleading practice
Tuesday	----------	Vacation from school
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	School
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. -	Bowling
Thursday	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	School
Thursday	10:00 p.m.	Slumber party
Friday	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	School, 1/2 day
Saturday	4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Birthday party

36. Which of the following additional things could you go to on time if you wanted to:

1. Wednesday 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Little Theatre Meeting
2. Thursday 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Track meet
3. Friday 9:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Spring formal
4. Saturday 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Birthday party

37. If you wanted to study on Wednesday after school and before bowling, about how much time would you have?

1. 2-1/2 hours
2. 3 hours
3. 3-1/2 hours
4. 4 hours

38. What days could you sleep past 9 a.m.?

1. Monday and Thursday
2. Wednesday and Saturday
3. Tuesday and Saturday
4. Tuesday and Thursday

Read the selection below and answer the question that follows.

> Early pioneers lived a danger-filled life. They had to constantly look out for Indians and wild animals. Accidents were frequent. Because they were so far from civilization, minor illnesses frequently became deadly killers.
>
> Despite these dangers, thousands of people left their settled homes to go west. The lure of gold, free land, and a new life was enough to get these hardy pioneers to pull up roots and move. The Westward Movement began.
>
> Most people went in groups. They were much safer in these groups than alone. They could protect and help each other. Also, a group could pool their money to hire a guide.

39. Which of the following was NOT a cause of danger for early pioneers?

1. distance from civilization
2. Indians frequently attacked
3. minor illnesses were killers
4. horses were unpredictable

Read the paragraph below and answer the question that follows.

> When I was eight, John Hance's grocery stood on the south side of Town Street, just east of Fourth, in the Central Market region of Columbus, Ohio. It was an old store, and its wide oak floor boards had been worn pleasantly smooth. Behind the counter always stood John Hance in a soiled apron.

40. This paragraph contains

1. general statements.
2. specific statements.
3. cause and effect.
4. contrast.

Read the paragraph.

> In order to write a constitution for the recently created United States, James Madison and his fellow-workers had to break with the old European tradition of deriving all powers from the sovereign of the land. Power was to originate from the people from now on, and elected officials would govern only as long as the people reelected them. The idea of people ruling themselves, started by liberal thinkers in England and France and carried out during the American Revolution, has far-reaching results. Soon after the completion of the U.S. Constitution, the French Revolution began. Leaders in Latin American revolutions looked to the U.S. for a model. A set of ideas which had begun in the fashionable drawing rooms of Paris and the law courts of London was to spread across the world. Today this fervor for revolting from the "mother" country is called "nationalism."

41. According to this article, one would expect that leaders of an independence movement in a U.S. territory, such as Puerto Rico, would be

    1. Cuban Communists.
    2. conservative business leaders in Puerto Rico.
    3. liberal, nationalistic groups in Puerto Rico.
    4. U.S. student protest groups.

Read the following paragraph and answer the statement below.

> Stalin is the name of a famous man who ruled Russia for almost thirty years. "Stalin" was not his real name but a name he took when he was a young man. It means "steel." Stalin was very cruel to his people. He had many of them killed and put others in prison. Some people say he even killed his wife. People who lived in Russia while he ruled say that there was never enough food.

42. The main idea of this paragraph is

    1. how Russians were treated.
    2. what Stalin was like.
    3. what Stalin's name means.
    4. why Stalin was famous.

Read the paragraph.

> Until 1965 half-dollars and quarters were 90% silver. In late 1965, the U.S. mint ceased to produce silver coins and instead began to mint "sandwich" coins made of copper and nickel. This minting was done to allow the silver to be used for industrial purposes, where it was badly needed. Within a year over 3.5 billion new coins had been minted, and the older silver ones were beginning to disappear from circulation. Many other countries have now also issued "sandwich" coins.

43. What sentence best summarizes this paragraph?

1. For over 100 years, half-dollars, quarters, nickels and dimes were mostly silver.
2. New coins minted to replace the silver coins were called "sandwich" coins made with copper and silver.
3. To help increase the supply of industrial silver, the U.S. government began making "sandwich" coins from copper and nickel instead of silver.
4. Silver coins began to disappear from circulation in 1966.

Read the story.

> A retired rear admiral says that the United States' policy in Africa is basically wrong. He advises us to increase our military forces there in case of possible conflict.

44. The admiral probably is basing his judgement on

1. knowledge of politics and diplomacy.
2. concern for peace.
3. knowledge of military affairs and strategy.
4. concern for Africa's interests.